

28. An apparatus according to claim 27, further comprising:
a programmable analyzer having a central processing unit;
wherein said label reader transfers said information to said programmable analyzer, and
said programmable analyzer interprets said information, identifying said one or more tests to
be performed on the biologic fluid sample.

29. An apparatus according to claim 28, wherein said programmable analyzer contains a
plurality of instructions for performing said one or more tests.

30. An apparatus according to claim 29, wherein said plurality of instructions are
contained remote from said programmable analyzer and are accessed through said
programmable analyzer.

31. (Amended) An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein said reader module further
comprises:
means for determining one of a through-plane thickness or a volume of said sample
field.

41. An apparatus for testing a sample of biologic fluid, said apparatus comprising:
a container having a chamber for quiescently holding the sample during the test, one or more features operable to enable the testing of the sample, wherein at least one of the one or more features is positioned at a known spatial location within the chamber, and a label
5 containing information which is used in the performance of one or more tests on the sample, wherein the information includes the spatial location of the at least one feature located within the chamber; and

a reader module operable to perform the testing of the sample, wherein the reader module includes:

10 a label reader for reading the label, and thereby accessing the information including the spatial location of the at least one feature located within the chamber;

a field illuminator for selectively illuminating a field of the sample quiescently residing within the chamber, wherein the sample field has a known or ascertainable area; and

15 a positioner, which is operable to selectively change the position of one of the chamber or the field illuminator relative to the other of the chamber or the field illuminator, to align the field illuminator with a field of the sample in which the at least one feature at a known spatial location within the chamber is positioned.

20 42. The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the reader module further comprises:
an image dissector, for converting an image of light passing through or emanating from each sample field into an electronic data format useful for test purposes.

43. The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the reader module further comprises:
25 means for determining one of a through-plane thickness or a volume of the sample field.

44. The apparatus of claim 41, further comprising means for determining one of a through-plane thickness or a volume of the sample field.

45. An apparatus for testing a sample of biologic fluid, said apparatus comprising:

5 a container having a chamber for quiescently holding the sample during the test, and one or more features operable to enable the testing of the sample, wherein at least one of the one or more features is positioned at a known spatial location within the chamber; and

10 a reader module operable to perform the testing of the sample, wherein the reader module includes a field illuminator for selectively illuminating a field of the sample quiescently residing within the chamber during the test, and a positioner that is operable to selectively change the position of one of the chamber or the field illuminator relative to the other of the chamber or the field illuminator, to align the field illuminator with the field of the sample in which the at least one feature at the known spatial location within the chamber is positioned.

15 46. The apparatus of claim 45, further comprising means for determining one of a through-plane thickness or a volume of the sample field.